

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4483

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study regarding whether the Rosie the Riveter Park located in Richmond, California, is suitable for designation as an affiliated site to the National Park Service.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 6, 1998

Mr. MILLER of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study regarding whether the Rosie the Riveter Park located in Richmond, California, is suitable for designation as an affiliated site to the National Park Service.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Rosie the Riveter Na-
5 tional Park Service Affiliated Site Study Act of 1998”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS; STUDY.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The City of Richmond, California, is located
2 on the northeastern shore of San Francisco Bay and
3 consists of several miles of waterfront which have
4 been used for shipping and industry since the begin-
5 ning of the 20th century. During the years of World
6 War II, the population of Richmond grew from 220
7 to over 100,000.

8 (2) An area of Richmond, California, now
9 known as Marina Park and Marina Green, was the
10 location in the 1940's of the Richmond Kaiser Ship-
11 yards, which produced Liberty and Victory ships
12 during World War II.

13 (3) Thousands of women of all ages and
14 ethnicities moved from across the United States to
15 Richmond, California, in search of high paying jobs
16 and skills never before available to women in the
17 shipyards.

18 (4) Kaiser Corporation supported women work-
19 ers by installing child care centers at the shipyards
20 so mothers could work while their children were well
21 cared for nearby.

22 (5) These women, referred to as "Rosie the
23 Riveter" and "Wendy the Welder", built hundreds of
24 liberty and victory ships in record time for use by
25 the United States Navy. Their labor played a crucial

1 role in increasing American productivity during the
2 war years and in meeting the demand for naval
3 ships.

4 (6) In part the Japanese plan to defeat the
5 United States Navy was predicated on victory occur-
6 ring before United States shipyards could build up
7 its fleet of ships.

8 (7) The City of Richmond, California, has dedi-
9 cated the former site of Kaiser Shipyard #2 as
10 Rosie the Riveter Memorial Park and will construct
11 a memorial honoring American women’s labor dur-
12 ing World War II. The memorial will be representa-
13 tive of one of the Liberty ships built on the site dur-
14 ing the war effort.

15 (8) The City of Richmond, California, is com-
16 mitted to collective interpretative oral histories for
17 the public to learn of the stories of the “Rosies” and
18 “Wendys” who worked in the shipyards.

19 (9) The Rosie the Riveter Park is a nationally
20 significant site because there tens of thousands of
21 women entered the work force for the first time,
22 working in heavy industry to support their families
23 and the War effort. This was a turning point for the
24 Richmond, California, area and the nation as a
25 whole, when women joined the workforce and suc-

1 cessfully completed jobs for which previously it was
2 believed they were incapable.

3 (b) STUDY.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Inte-
5 rior shall conduct a feasibility study to determine
6 whether—

7 (A) the Rosie the Riveter Park located in
8 Richmond, California, is suitable for designa-
9 tion as an affiliated site to the National Park
10 Service; and

11 (B) the Rosie the Riveter Memorial Com-
12 mittee established by the City of Richmond,
13 California, with respect to that park is eligible
14 for technical assistance for interpretative func-
15 tions relating to the park, including preserva-
16 tion of oral histories from former workers at the
17 Richmond Kaiser Shipyards.

18 (2) REPORTS.—Not later than 6 months after
19 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
20 shall complete the study under paragraph (1) and
21 submit a report containing findings, conclusions, and
22 recommendations from the study to the Committee
23 on Resources of the House of Representatives and

- 1 the Committee on Energy and Environment of the
- 2 Senate.

